

Rural and Low-Income Schools Program for 2014-2015

Title VI, Part B, Subpart 2
No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 P.L. 107-110

Application Process and Directions

The Rural and Low-Income Schools (RLIS) Program is designed to assist rural school districts in using Federal resources more effectively to improve the quality of instruction and student academic achievement. This document is intended to provide an overview of the application process and should be used in conjunction with the U.S. Education Department (USED) policy guidance that may be found on the USED Web site. It is recommended that districts having identified Focus Schools use these funds to address closing achievement gaps.

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/reaprlisp/legislation.html>

For general programmatic questions about RLIS, contact Vicki Fosbender or Monica Murphy at (502-564-3791). For budget questions, contact Judy Howard at (502) 564-1979. For specific questions about activities in other programs where RLIS funds may be used, contact the program contact listed on pages 2 and 3.

This grant provides funds to rural school districts (LEAs) that serve concentrations of children from low - income families. To be eligible to participate in RLIS Program, **all** of the following must apply to the district:

1. Twenty percent (20%) or more of the children ages five to seventeen served by the district are from families with incomes below the poverty line as determined by the USED based on census data;
2. All public schools in the district have a school locale code of 6, 7, or 8, as assigned by the USED's National Center for Education Statistics; and
3. The district is not eligible to participate in the Small Rural Schools Achievement (SRSA) Program.

These funds may be used to support a broad array of local activities and initiatives to enhance student achievement. However, for districts with identified Priority and/or Focus Schools, funds must be used to address gaps based on the school's needs assessment.

The funds may be used for one or more of the following:

- Teacher recruitment and retention;
- Professional development;
- Parent involvement activities;
- Activities authorized under Title I, Part A;
- Activities authorized under Title III, Part A
- Activities to close achievement gaps in Focus Schools

Application Submission and Approval Deadline

The application submission date is November 1, 2014. Complete application must be submitted electronically to the Title I Mailbox (Title1Reports@education.ky.gov). Once an application is approved, the LEA will be notified through the award notification process from the Division of Budget and Financial Management.

Revisions are changes that are necessary to the program application or budget before the approval can be granted. Revisions to the application are made after the original submission only if the application was denied. Revisions are submitted electronically to the Title I Mailbox. Questions concerning revisions can be made to Vicki Fossbender at Vicki.Fossbender@education.ky.gov, Monica Murphy at Monica.Murphy@education.ky.gov, or Monica Shack at Monica.Shack@education.ky.gov at 502-564-3791.

Amendments are changes that are made to the program application or budget after the approval of the application. If the amendment involves only programmatic changes, a budget amendment is not required. If the amendment involves programmatic and budget changes, a program as well as a budget amendment must be submitted. Program amendments are submitted electronically to the Title I Mailbox (Title1Reports@education.ky.gov). Questions concerning Program Amendments can be submitted to Vicki Fossbender at Vicki.Fossbender@education.ky.gov, Monica Murphy at Monica.Murphy@education.ky.gov, or Monica Shack at Monica.Shack@education.ky.gov at 502-564-3791. Budget amendments are submitted, using the budget amendment process, to Becky Stoddard at becky.stoddard@education.ky.gov. Questions concerning Budget Amendments can be submitted to Becky Stoddard.

Instructions for Completing the Application

The application has been created in a **Microsoft Word ® format**. Enter data only in the empty box areas.

Page 1

Enter the complete District Name, the name of the Title VI Coordinator, complete address, phone and fax numbers. Electronically sign and date prior to submission.

Page 2-3

The district has flexibility in the use of funds. Note the area where the funds will be used by placing an X in the appropriate box. Describe the applicable description of services.

Program Overview

Include in the box a brief description of the district's RLIS program and specifically how the district plans to use the funds to support federal, state and local requirements and initiatives. Include how the RLIS program will improve College and Career Readiness.

Following are descriptions of programs for which the Rural and Low-Income School Program funds may be used. The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) contact information follows each program description.

Title I, Part A – Improving the Academic Achievement of Disadvantaged Children

Districts may use RLIS funds for the following purposes:

- Parent involvement;

- Professional development;
- School extension programs (i.e., before school, after school, summer school and intersession); and/or
- Preschool programs.

Contact Sharma Aitken, Christina Benassi, Claude Christian, Dan Davison, Vicki Fosbender, Helen Jones, Judy Littleton, Julie Lovely, Zack Marinelli, Mary Marshall, David Millanti, Monica Murphy, Monica Shack, Neil Watts, or Donna Tackett for more specific details about Title I, Part A – (502)564-3791.

Title III – Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students

Districts may use RLIS funds for the following purposes:

- To develop and implement new language instructional programs and academic content instruction programs;
- To carry out highly focused, innovative, locally designed activities to expand or enhance existing language instruction educational programs and academic content instruction programs;
- To implement school-wide or district-wide program restructuring, reforming, and upgrading all relevant programs, activities, and operations relating to language instruction educational programs and academic content instruction.

Title III must be used to:

- Increase the English language proficiency of students by providing high-quality language instruction programs based on scientifically based research;
- Provide high-quality professional development to classroom teachers, principals, administrators, and other school or community based organizations consistent with Kentucky’s Professional Development Standards, requirements under NCLB and Section 3115(c).

Additional activities for Title III may include:

- Upgrading program objectives and effective instruction;
- Improving the instruction programs by identifying, acquiring and upgrading curricula, instruction materials, educational software, and assessment procedures;
- Providing tutorials and academic or vocational education and intensified instruction;
- Developing and implementing elementary school or secondary school language instruction educational programs coordinated with other programs;
- Improving the English language proficiency and academic achievement of the children; and
- Providing community programs, family literacy services, and parent outreach and training activities.

Contact Gary Martin for more specific details about Title III – (502)564-4970.

Page 4-5

Include a detailed breakdown of the budget categories by MUNIS code. Refer to the Federal Non-compliance Funding Matrix for allowable expenditures.